

EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 26 JUNE 2023 AT 7 PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr D Rook (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Cllr D Morgan-Jones and Cllr C Turner.

In Attendance: Alison Ball (Clerk). Cllr T Collins (Hart District Council). Cllr S Parker (Hampshire County Council) (until 7.55pm). One member of the public.

23/140	Apologies for Absence
	Cllrs G Bredin (Chairman) and E Jennings.

23/141	Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 22 May 2023
	RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 22 May 2023.

23/142	Matters arising from the Minutes
	None.

23/143	Announcements from Chairman, Clerk and Members' Questions
	None.

23/144	District and County Council Report
	<p>Hart District Council (HDC):- Cllr Collins advised that she had followed up on progress at HDC with the removal of the fly tipping alongside the A287 and she was able to report that the issue was still with legal whilst the ownership of the land was looked into and quotes were being sought to establish the costs involved in removing the waste.</p> <p>Hampshire County Council (HCC):- Cllr Parker had circulated his report prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Parker reported that he understood that HCC had returned to do additional cutting back on the corner of Doras Green Lane and Heath Lane after complaints that the previous cut did not go far enough. Cllr Turner confirmed he had spoken to the land owner about doing further cutting back on this corner on the inside of the fence and he was hopeful this would be completed soon.</p>

	Cllr Parker confirmed he would follow up on the reinstatement of the verges on Dares Lane.
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23/145	Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations
	None.

23/146	Public Participation
	<p>One member of the public spoke advising that she had responded to the consultation by HDC on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) as this had allowed her to raise safety concerns in the Doras Green Lane/Heath Lane area. She had also encouraged her neighbours to respond to the consultation.</p> <p>Cllr Parker advised that he was in the process of assembling a meeting at HCC to talk about a number of road issues and he intended to include a potential speed reduction on Doras Green Lane/ Heath Lane in the discussion. He confirmed that the investigation into the installation of a Vehicle Activated Sign was ongoing as further work was needed to establish how power could be supplied to the sign.</p> <p>There was a discussion about how best to engage with the Police on a potential reduction in the speed limit along Heath Lane. The Clerk confirmed she had completed an online request form asking Hampshire Constabulary to provide the contact details of someone who could help with speed limit reductions and got a response saying it had been passed to the local neighbourhood policing team. She had also contacted the local PCSO directly and was waiting for a response. Cllr Turner confirmed he would contact the Police and Crime Commissioner.</p>

23/147	Planning
	No planning applications had been received.

23/148	Design Codes
	Cllr Morgan-Jones advised he had nothing to report at this time.

23/149	Highways Issues at Doras Green
	This had been discussed under agenda items 5: District/County Council Reports and 7: Public Participation as minuted above.

23/150	Reinstatement of Verges
	It was noted that the poor state of the SANG land following the laying of the new pipeline had been raised with Esso and it had been confirmed that it would be reinstated as soon as the land was in an appropriate condition which would likely be in August.
23/151	Ongoing maintenance of the road side (hedges, verges and litter)
	There was no update at this time.
23/152	Fly Tipping on A287
	This had been discussed under agenda item 5: District/County Council Reports as minuted above.
23/153	Enhancing parish communication and engagement
	Cllr Morgan-Jones advised that he planned to put together a paper for circulation before the next meeting.
23/154	Rural Fibre Optic Rollout
	It was expected that an announcement regarding the rural fibre optic rollout in Ewshot would be made by the end of July.
23/155	Farnborough Airport
	Cllr Turner confirmed he was waiting to be invited to attend an induction at the airport.
23/156	Play Area Safety Inspection Report
	<p>The annual inspection of the play area had been completed and some minor issues had been identified. It was noted that a volunteer from the village had carried out the majority of the minor repairs and thanks were expressed to him for giving up his time to do this. There were a couple of outstanding items including the repair of some fence posts and the volunteer was looking into how this could be done. A plastic cap was also missing and the Clerk would order a replacement.</p> <p>The only large issues identified in the Report related to the zip wire, swings and bucket swing. These items had received a high risk level in the Report as they were no longer included in the inspection because they needed to be taken apart and inspected for faults. The Clerk had previously contacted the supplier to ask how</p>

	often they recommended a full inspection and they had suggested every two years but this varied depending on the amount of use. These items had been taken apart and inspected in summer 2022 so were not due another inspection until 2024.
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23/157	Hedge Cutting
	<p>It was reported that the hedges around the play area, tennis court and car park had grown significantly and were looking very untidy. These hedges needed to be cut by hand as there was not sufficient access for big machinery. The hedges had last been cut in February 2023 following the receipt of four quotes and acceptance of the cheapest quote. The difficulty involved in getting a new set of quotes was acknowledged and the Clerk reported that the company who cut the hedges in February had agreed to do it again for the same price. It was agreed to suspend standing orders and not seek quotes again for this work but to accept the one quote that had been received as it had been good value for money in February and the job had been completed to a very good standard.</p> <p>It was suggested that consideration be given to how retain the services of an individual to carry out this kind of work. The Clerk advised that companies had, since COVID, been reluctant to provide quotes for work in future years due to the uncertainty around their costs.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the quote from MGB Services for the hedge cutting around the recreation ground, play area and car park be accepted. Proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Jones and agreed unanimously.</p>

23/158	Response to HDC Consultation on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)
	<p>Notification had been received that HCC with HDC and Sustrans (a charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle) were consulting on a LCWIP. This document would help to identify what cycling and walking improvements were needed and develop local cycling and walking networks in Hart. As part of the process the views of residents were being sought and within the consultation there was the opportunity for residents to identify specific roads/ junctions and highlight if they felt safe in these areas and if not why not along with suggestions for how to improve this such as speed limit reductions. This consultation had already been shared with a resident of Doras Green who had passed the details onto neighbours.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council should meet informally to consider how to respond to the consultation and to highlight specific locations in the parish that would benefit from improvements. It was also agreed that a link be added to the website and details be put in the parish magazine (if deadlines meant it could appear before the end of the consultation on 20 August).</p>

	(NOTE: Following conclusion of this item Cllr Parker left the meeting to attend a meeting at another parish council.)
23/159	Response to HDC Consultation on the proposed SPD for Cycle and Car Parking in New Developments
	<p>Notification had been received from HDC that they were consulting on a draft supplementary planning document for Cycle and Car Parking in New Developments. This document set out the appropriate amount of cycle and car parking in new developments. It also set out to encourage a shift away from car use towards walking, cycling and other sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>Winchfield Parish Council had commissioned a private planning consultant to assist with a response to the consultation as they had concerns about the potential conflict between this document and Neighbourhood Plans and also its application in rural areas. This response had been shared with other parishes to assist with responses.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Deirdre Rook and the Clerk draft a response to the consultation broadly supporting the main issues raised by Winchfield Parish Council.</p>
23/160	Asset Register 2023/2024
	<p>The Asset Register had been reviewed and some very minor changes had been made to remove items no longer owned. It would be kept under review during the year.</p> <p>Cllr Morgan-Jones suggested that the Asset Register be expanded to include details to allow the level of reserves to be directly linked to assets. This would involve inclusion of information such as how long an item was expected to last before needing replacement. It was agreed to revisit this in September.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the review of the Asset Register be noted and it be adopted in its revised form. Proposed by Cllr Rook, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Jones and agreed unanimously.</p>
23/161	To confirm no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP
	RESOLVED: That the Parish Council had no conflicts of interest with the external auditor firm BDO LLP.

23/162	Approval of Payments																		
	<p>The following payments were approved:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>June Payroll</td> <td>£573.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC - tax</td> <td>£16.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk – reimbursement for ink and paper</td> <td>£28.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larkstel – Bin emptying (June)</td> <td>£188.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NJL Box Green – Grass Cutting – May</td> <td>£648.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vision ICT – website hosting</td> <td>£247.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ROSPA Play safety – Annual Inspection of the Play Area</td> <td>£123.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Castle Water – Water Bill</td> <td>£35.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G Bredin – Reimbursement for plants</td> <td>£162.29</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was NOTED that the June payroll had already been paid as it needed to be paid by the 25th of the month. The electronic payments needed to pay the June payroll had been made by one councillor and the Clerk as there had not been a second councillor available to approve the payments. It was agreed that all councillors should check they were able to log into the system. The Clerk agreed to look into setting up a direct debit or standing order for regular payments.</p>	June Payroll	£573.73	HMRC - tax	£16.20	Clerk – reimbursement for ink and paper	£28.42	Larkstel – Bin emptying (June)	£188.70	NJL Box Green – Grass Cutting – May	£648.00	Vision ICT – website hosting	£247.36	ROSPA Play safety – Annual Inspection of the Play Area	£123.60	Castle Water – Water Bill	£35.36	G Bredin – Reimbursement for plants	£162.29
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23/163	Correspondence
	<p>The Clerk advised that there was no correspondence that had been received in addition to that already forwarded on and none that needed addressing that had not appeared elsewhere on the agenda.</p>

23/164	Date of Next Meeting
	<p>It was noted that the next meeting was due to take place on 10 July 2023.</p>

23/165	Any Other Business
	<p>None.</p>

The meeting ended at 8.19 pm

Signed.....

Dated